

Considered Removal Child & Family Team Meetings (CR-CFTM)

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CR-CFTM: Overview

➤ **Implemented CR-CFTM in February 2013, as part of our teaming continuum.**

➤ **Purpose of CR-CFTMs:**

- **Mitigate safety factors to prevent removal by identifying and utilizing family's natural/formal supports;**
- **Address risk factors that impact child safety;**
- **Engage families and their supports in safety planning and placement-related decisions;**
- **Identify roles/responsibilities of team members and together strategies are developed to help keep child safe; and**
- **Explore and identify extended family & kin as potential placement resources for child should removal be necessary**

CR-CFTM Overview

- **Considered Removal Meetings are required when a child is being considered for immediate removal based on the identification of a safety factor.**
- **Utilizes Structured Decision-Making (SDM) Safety Assessment Tool to inform removal decision.**
- **Meetings are run by an independent trained facilitator, outside chain of command.**
- **Six Stages of CR Meeting: Introduction, Identify the Situation/Problem, Assess the Situation, Develop Ideas, Reach a Decision, Recap/Close.**

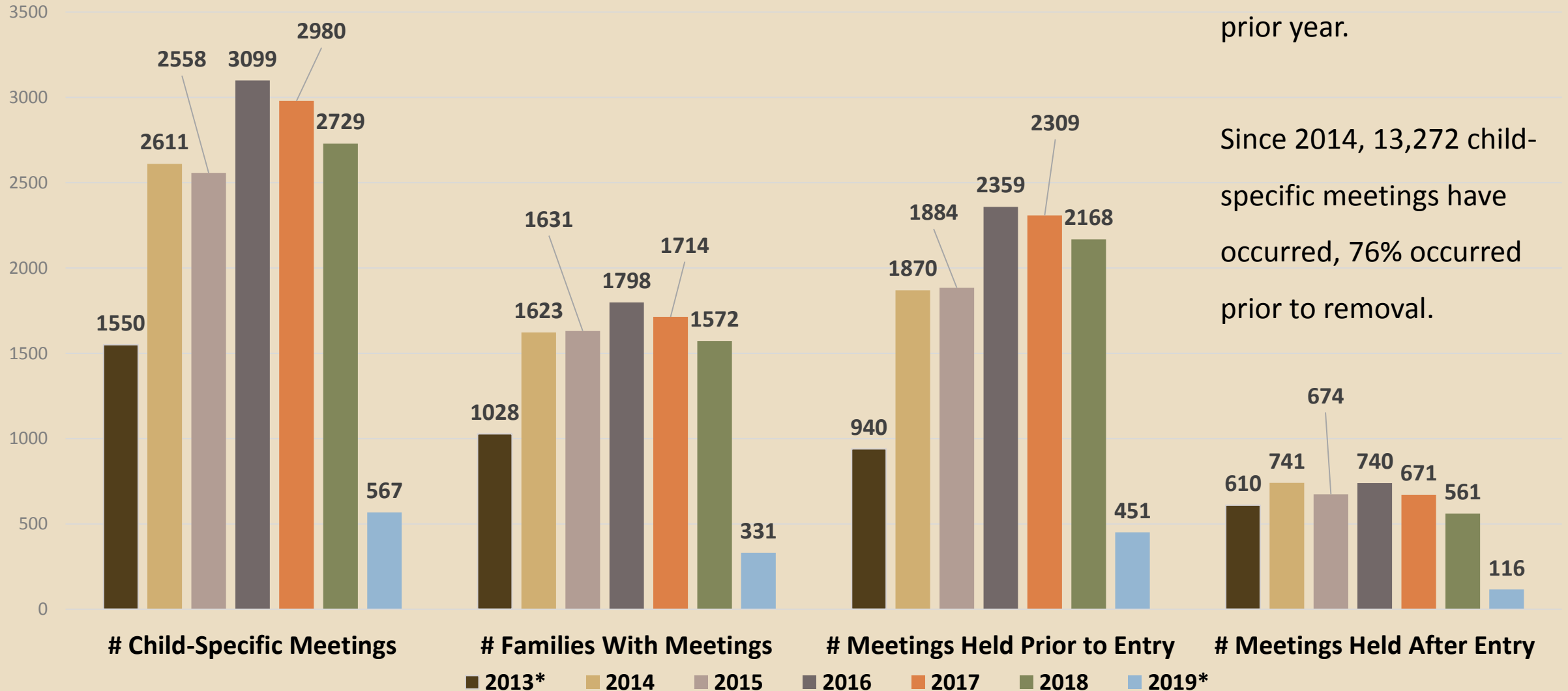
Key Practice Elements

- **Meetings are held prior to removal of a child from the home unless the family situation requires an emergency removal to ensure child safety.**
- **If a child has been removed, a meeting will occur within two business days, prior to the filing of a Motion for Order of Temporary Custody.**
- **The focus of the meeting is on child safety and results in a “live” decision regarding a child's removal from the home.**
 - **DCF will make the decision if consensus cannot be reached during the meeting.**
- **Meeting participants include parents/guardians, child/youth, extended family, natural supports, service providers & DCF staff.**
- **Meetings help to identify the family's strengths, resources and protective capacities**

CR-CFTM Data since implementation

This year, 79.5% of meetings occurred prior to the child's removal, consistent from the prior year.

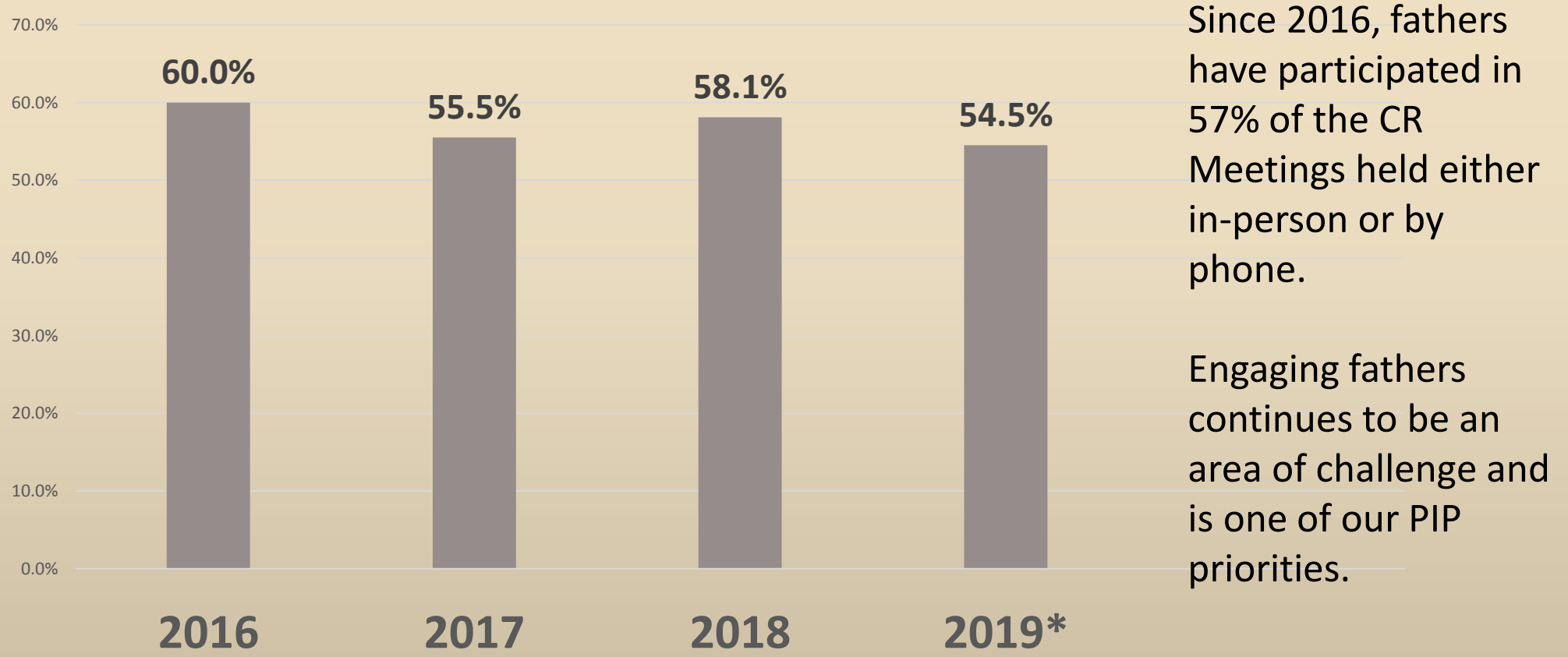
Considered Removal - Child/Family Team Meetings (CR-CFTM)



Since 2014, 13,272 child-specific meetings have occurred, 76% occurred prior to removal.

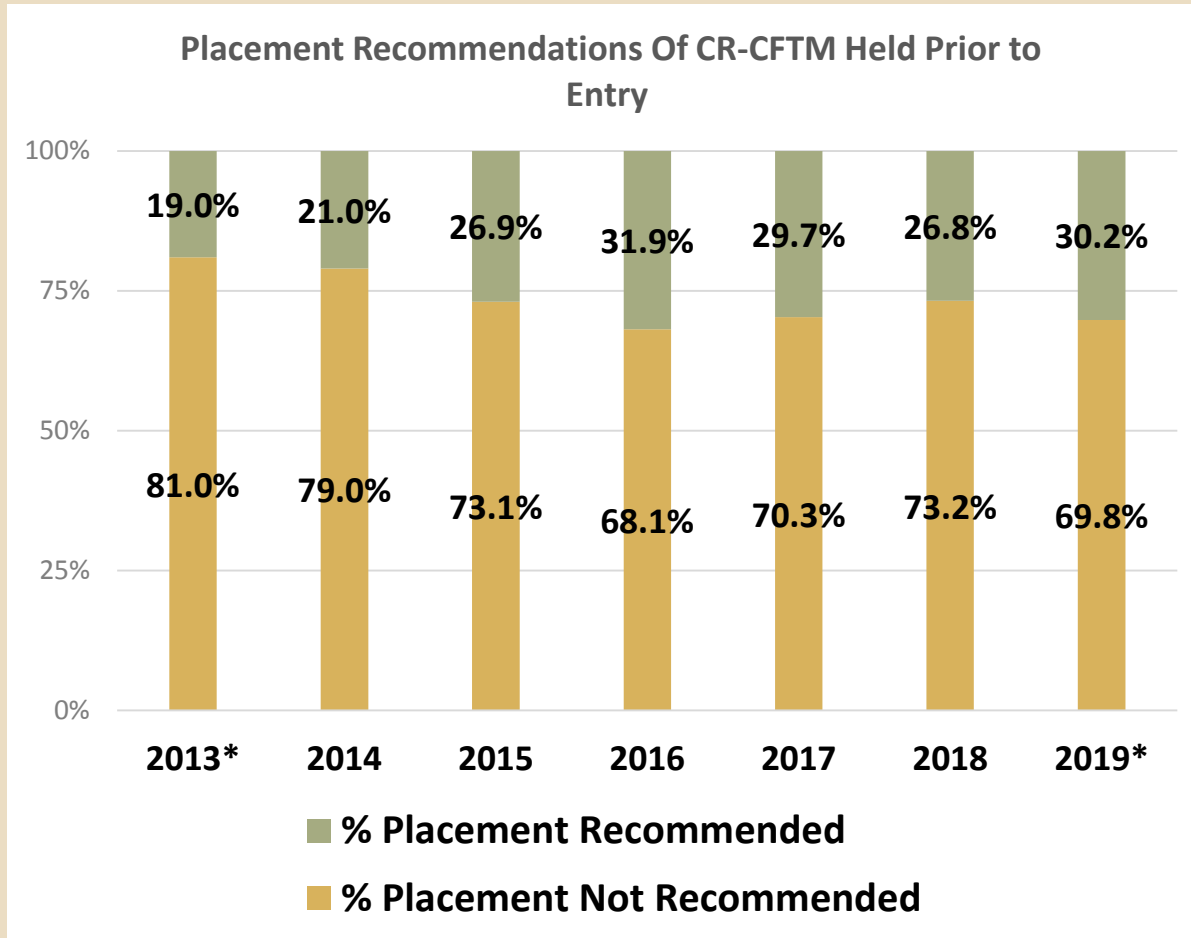
*Represents partial FY. Data thru 5.7.19

Father Participation in CR-CFTMs by FY

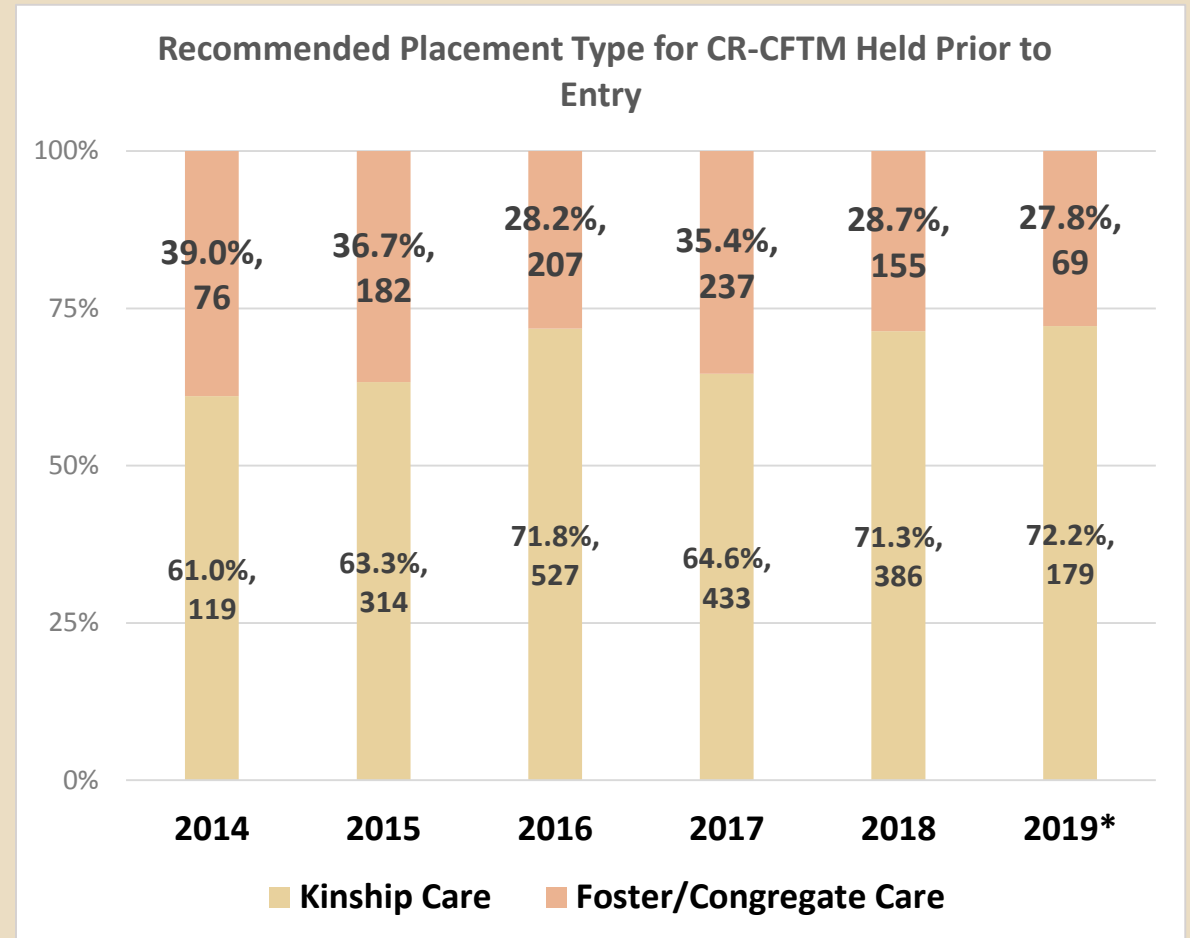


* Represents data thru 10.7.19

CR-CFTM Decision for Meetings Held Prior

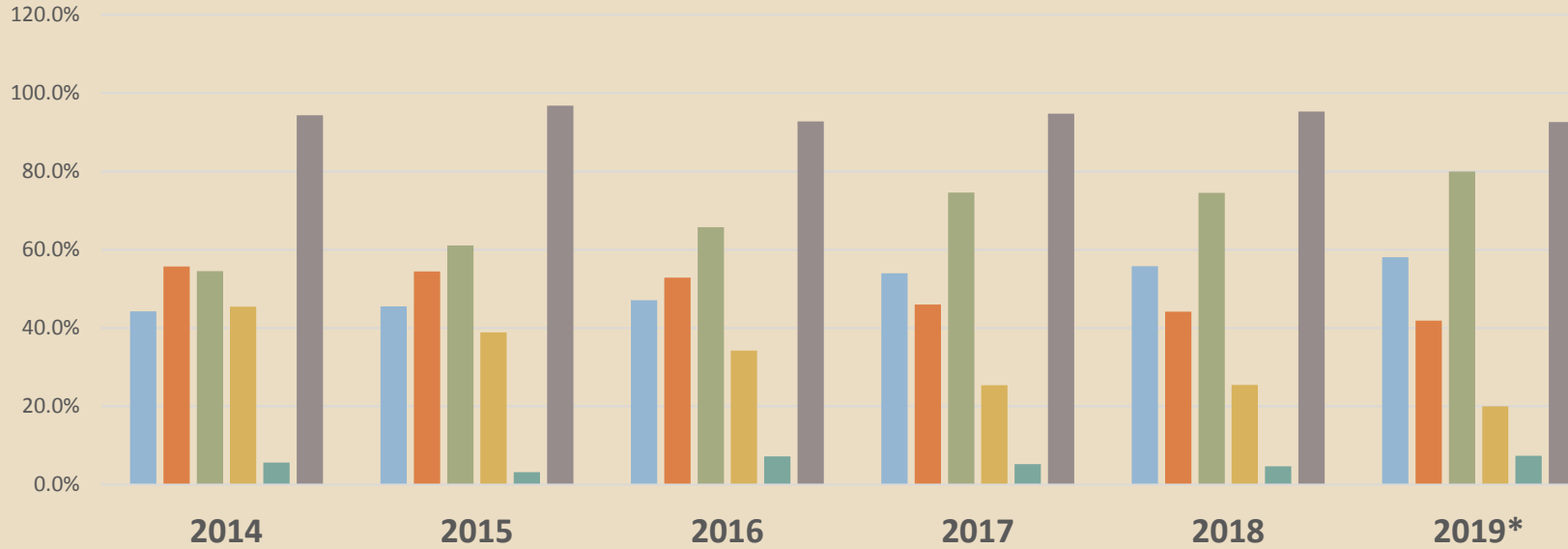


This chart represents Considered Removal (CR) Meetings held prior to removal and the recommended outcome of the meeting. The data demonstrates the Department's ability to engage in safety planning efforts with families. This past year 70% of children were not recommended for removal, a decrease from the prior year (73%).



This chart represents CR meetings held prior to removal since 2014 and depicts the recommended placement for those children who were recommended for removal. Kinship care continues to be the primary placement recommended for children who are the subject of a CR meeting. This year, 72% of children were recommended for placement in kinship care.

Rate of Diversion & Entry into Care by CR Recommendation



This chart reflects the CR meetings held prior to the child’s removal and compares the recommendation of the meeting (removal) and whether the child actually entered care.

For this year, 93% of the children with a recommendation to remove, entered care, a slight decrease from prior year (95%). This has been fairly consistent since implementation.

Since 2014, there has been a decline in the percentage of children who entered care but removal was not recommended, from 45% in 2016 to 20% in 2019.

Overall, the “live decision” made at the meeting appears fairly consistent with what happens after the meeting.

Of Meetings Prior to Entry		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*
Of All Meetings Prior to Entry	Diverted	44.3%	45.5%	47.1%	54.0%	55.8%	58.1%
	Entered	55.7%	54.5%	52.9%	46.0%	44.2%	41.9%
Placement Not Recommended	Diverted	54.6%	61.1%	65.8%	74.6%	74.5%	80.0%
	Entered	45.4%	38.9%	34.2%	25.4%	25.5%	20.0%
Placement Recommended	Diverted	5.6%	3.2%	7.2%	5.2%	4.7%	7.4%
	Entered	94.4%	96.8%	92.8%	94.8%	95.3%	92.6%

*Represents partial FY. Data thru 5.7.19

CR-CFTM – Key Takeaways

- Since implementation, meetings have consistently occurred prior to a child's removal
- Removal not recommended has been the predominate outcome of the CR meeting
- For those recommended for removal, placement with relatives/kin continues to be the primary placement recommended
- Removal recommendation and entry into care has been fairly consistent; the recommended placement made during the meeting and actual placement setting for child is also consistent